

Palisades Park Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Regular Meeting on January 9, 2025

At the Library Meeting Room

Flag Salute: 7:03 PM

Attendance: Roll Call

| Name | Present | Absent |
|---|---------|--------|
| Fran Beck - in person | x | |
| Irene Grala - in person | x | |
| Helen Jeon - in person | x | |
| HyonSuk Kim - in person | x | |
| Maurin Tansey - in person | x | |
| Barnabas Woo - in person | x | |
| Dr. Cirillo - Superintendent - virtual | x | |
| Y. Christine Won-Yoon- Alternate to Mayor-in person | x | |

Quorum was established.

This meeting is a regular meeting.

At the start of the meeting, Christine Won-Yoon, Alternate to Mayor, presented an appreciation plaque to Joseph Ferguson, who retired at the end of December 2024 and has been the Library Board President and a member for the last 25 years. His position was appointed to the next nominee, Barnabas Woo as a Board President. for 2025.

Resolution 2025-01-01 Appointment of President for 2025

The motion passed with the following roll calls.

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Motion made by | Christine Won-Yoon |
| Seconded by | Helen Jeon |
| Yes | Fran, Irene, Helen, HyonSuk, Maurin, Dr. Cirillo, Christine |
| No | |

The motion is carried with all yes. Barnabas Woo is the President of the Library Board for 2025.

Resolution 2025-01-02 Appointment of the Library Attorney (Kraig Dowd) for 2025. His salary is not to exceed 25,000/year. The President, Secretary, and Director will get in touch with him and be the point people for future communications.

The motion passed with the following roll calls.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Motion made by | Christine Won-Yoon |
| Seconded by | Helen Jeon |
| Yes | Fran, Irene, Helen, HyonSuk, Maurin, Christine |
| No | |

The motion carried with all yes. Kraig Dowd is the Library Lawyer for 2025 and he joined the meeting.

Resignation of Previous board members Richard Giacobone and Anne Ahne. They resigned as of December. Richard for health reasons and Anne for personal reasons. Mayor Kim and Christine Won-Yoon had accepted their resignation.

Resolution 2025-01-03 Appointment of the Board's Secretary Anne Ahne for 2025

Christine stated that the position was offered after Anne resigned. The position requires an average of 3 days a week at \$10,000/year stipend. The motion passed with the following roll calls.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Motion made by | Christine Won-Yoon |
| Seconded by | Barnabas Woo |
| Yes | Fran, Irene, Helen, HyonSuk, Christine |
| No | Maurin |

The motion carried to assign Anne Ahne as the Board Secretary for 2025 and she joined the meeting.

Resolution 2025-01-04 Appointment of Treasurer for 2025

HyonSuk Kim was nominated by Barnabas and Helen was nominated by Maurin. But later Helen declined saying she doesn't have the time for this position. The motion was made to appoint HyonSuk Kim was passed with the following roll call.

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Motion made by | Barnabas Woo |
| Seconded by | Christine Won-Yoon |
| Yes | Fran, Irene, Helen, Maurin, Christine |
| No | |

HyonSuk Kim is the Library Treasurer for 2025.

Resolution 2025-01-05 Authorization of Signatories on Checks for the Accounts.

After a discussion, the Board agreed that three people, the President, the Director and the Treasurer should be the signer of the checks in the future. The Santander check \$21,312.73 will be deposited in the New Millenium bank for the highest CD interest rate. Only the interest may be withdrawn on this account. When withdrawing from the bank, these board members may approve then, any one of them can go and sign the check. The motion passed as the following call.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Motion made by | Christine Won-Yoon |
| Seconded by | Helen Jeon |
| Yes | Fran, Irene, Helen, HyonSuk, Maurin, Christine |
| No | |

The motion passed with three signers of checks being Barnabas Woo, Hyonsuk Kim, and Esperanza Pacheco.

Resolution 2025-01-06 Approval of December Bill List

Christine went over the bill list with Allison Tansey and she provided answers on the questions regarding the new BCCLs faster wifi and the Korean programs. The December bill was passed with the following calls.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Motion made by | Irene Grala |
| Seconded by | Maurin Tansey |
| Yes | Fran, Irene, Helen, HyonSuk, Maurin, Christine |
| No | |

The motion was carried to pass the December 2024 bills.

Resolution 2025-01-07 Approval of Canceling Virtual Participation in the Board Meetings.

Christine brought up that all board members should be in-person, not virtual any more. But if there are exceptional cases where someone couldn't attend in person, a link to call in or zoom link will be allowed. The motion was passed as the following.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Motion made by | Christine Won-Yoon |
| Seconded by | Barnabas Woo |
| Yes | Fran, Irene, Helen, HyonSuk, Christine |
| No | Maurin |

With this motion passed, the meetings will be in person for 2025 with personal exceptions.

Resolution 2025-01-08 Approval of Disqualifying Board Members absent for three meetings in one year. This is tabled for the following month as the lawyer Dowd suggested it might be in the Borough's jurisdiction. All said yes and agreed to table this motion for the following month.

The Public Participation:

Joe Ferguson, 475 Grand Ave. Palisades Park, NJ expressed his concern for the appointment of the Board Secretary that he disagrees with the money usage. He also explained about the donation of \$20,000 which only the interest of that is to be used each year, not the principal as was allotted by the donator.

Andrew Meehan, Hackensack, NJ expressed his concern for a new board member who has a daughter as an employee of the library and the possibility if her voting decision may favor her. The board member replied that she will be taken out voluntarily if there will be such instances or disqualify herself to vote.

The Public session was closed by Christine and the members of the public left the room.

After the Board reconvened the following resolution took place:

Resolution 2025-01-09 Authorizing the Hiring of Interim Director (Esperanza Pacheco), whereas, the Palisades Park Public Library needs an Interim Director immediately. Now, therefore, be resolved by the Palisades Park Public Library Board authorizing hiring of Esperanza Pacheco as Interim Library Director at the rate of \$70/hour not to exceed \$44,000 for 120 calendar day periods commencing on her first day of employment. At the average of 35 hours per week.

The Resolution was passed with the following roll call:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Motion made by | Christine Won-Yoon |
| Seconded by | Barnabas Woo |
| Yes | Fran, Irene, Helen, HyonSuk, Christine, Maurin |
| No | |

The motion passed to hire Esperanza Pacheco immediately as the Interim Director for the Library.

After closing the executive session the Board resumed back to the open session. Newly appointed President Barnabas appointed a Personnel committee consisting of three members, Irene Grala, Helen Jeon, and Hyonsuk Kim.

Personnel Committee: Irene will chair this committee with Helen and HyonSuk within the next 2 weeks to discuss the candidates for the full time librarian.

9:25 PM Fran made a motion to adjourn the meeting. All agreed.

The meeting is adjourned.